

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, SS.

Board of Registration in Medicine

Adjudicatory Case No. 2020-042

In the Matter of)
Emily A. Laurenzano, D.O.)

CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 10, Emily A. Laurenzano, D.O. (Respondent) and the Board of Registration in Medicine (Board) (hereinafter referred to jointly as the "Parties") agree that the Board may issue this Consent Order to resolve the above-captioned adjudicatory proceeding. The Parties further agree that this Consent Order will have all the force and effect of a Final Decision within the meaning of 801 CMR 1.01(11)(d). The Respondent admits to the findings of fact specified below and agrees that the Board may make the conclusions of law and impose the sanction set forth below in resolution of investigative Docket No. 19-236.

Findings of Fact

1. The Respondent was born in March 1986 and graduated from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2013. The Respondent has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts under certificate number 270307 since 2017. She is certified by the American Board of Medical Specialties in psychiatry and worked as an attending psychiatrist at Baystate Medical Center's Behavioral Health- Adult Outpatient program from 2017 to May 20, 2019.
2. In late 2018, the Respondent began abusing prescriptions pills and illegal drugs.
3. On diverse dates in April 2019 the Respondent participated in a group chat.

4. As part of that group chat the Respondent frequently discussed abusing cocaine, Adderall, Xanax and marijuana.
5. As part of the group chat the Respondent inquired if either of her female friends knew of someone who would be willing to sell her Adderall pills on a consistent basis.
6. On or about April 20, 2019, the Respondent sent a text message to members of the group chat stating that she was repeatedly snorting Adderall while drafting her patient encounter notes.
7. On another occasion in April 2019, the Respondent sent a text message to members of the group chat stating that she had been snorting cocaine while working on her patient encounter notes. She further stated that after she had finished her notes she had taken Xanax before going to bed.
8. On or about May 17, 2019, the Board received a complaint alleging that the Respondent was abusing prescription pills and illegal drugs. Attached to the complaint was a copy of some of the messages from the Respondent's group chat.
9. On May 21, 2019, the Respondent entered into a Voluntary Agreement not to Practice Medicine (VANP) which was ratified by the Board on May 30, 2019.
10. On August 28, 2019, the Respondent entered into a contract with Physician Health Services (PHS), which requires strict substance use testing requirements, monitoring, and support groups.
11. The Respondent has been compliant with her PHS contract.
12. There is no evidence that the Respondent's drug use resulted in patient harm.

Conclusion of Law

A. The Respondent has practiced medicine while her ability to practice was impaired by alcohol, drugs, physical disability or mental instability in violation of 243 C.M.R. 103(5)(a)4.

B. The Respondent has engaged in conduct which undermines the public's confidence in the integrity of the medical profession. *See Raymond v. Board of Registration in Medicine*, 387 Mass. 708 (1982); *Levy v. Board of Registration in Medicine*, 378 Mass. 519 (1979).


Sanction and Order

The Respondent's license is hereby indefinitely suspended. The Respondent may be allowed to petition to stay the indefinite suspension upon demonstrating her fitness to practice, including, but not limited to: documenting consistent compliance for eighteen (18) months with her August 28, 2019 PHS Substance Abuse Monitoring contract; and submitting the results of psychiatric and neuropsychological evaluations by providers approved in advance by the Board. Any stay of the suspension would be at the Board's discretion and contingent upon the Respondent entering into a 5-year Probation Agreement. The terms of the Probation Agreement shall include the following: 1) ongoing compliance with the Respondent's PHS substance abuse monitoring contract; 2) required compliance with recommendations by all evaluators, which shall be incorporated into the Probation Agreement; 3) practice pursuant to a Board-approved practice plan with workplace monitoring; 4) treatment by Board-approved health care provider(s); 5) a provision prohibiting early termination of the Probation Agreement; and 6) any other conditions that the Board may deem appropriate.

Execution of this Consent Order


The Respondent shall provide a complete copy of this Consent Order and Probation Agreement with all exhibits and attachments within ten (10) days by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by hand delivery to the following designated entities: any in- or out-of-state hospital, nursing home, clinic, other licensed facility, or municipal, state, or federal facility at which he practices medicine; any in- or out-of-state health maintenance organization with whom the Respondent has privileges or any other kind of association; any state agency, in- or out-of-state, with which the Respondent has a provider contract; any in- or out-of-state medical employer, whether or not the Respondent practices medicine there; the state licensing boards of all states in which the Respondent has any kind of license to practice medicine; the Drug Enforcement Administration Boston Diversion Group; and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Drug Control Program. The Respondent shall also provide this notification to any such designated entities with which the Respondent becomes associated for the duration of the suspension and Probation Agreement. The Respondent is further directed to certify to the Board within ten (10) days that she has complied with this directive.

The Board expressly reserves the authority to independently notify, at any time, any of the entities designated above, or any other affected entity, of any action it has taken.




Emily A. Laurenzano, D.O.
Licensee

5/27/2020
Date



Melinda Phelps, Esq.
Attorney for the Licensee

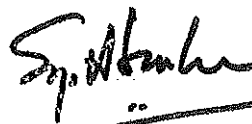
5-28-20
Date



Lisa L. Fuccione
Complaint Counsel

4-17-20
Date

So ORDERED by the Board of Registration in Medicine this 24th day of September
2020.



George Abraham, M.D.
Chairman